PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Reiner ESCHBACH, Charles M. HAINS,

Keith D. COLLINS

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: January 16, 2002 Docket No.: 110237

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MODIFYING IMAGE DATA FOR

BACKGROUND PRINTING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel second claim 33 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add new claim 35 as follows:

-- 35. A method according to claim 19, wherein the generated modified image data is suitable for use as a background image. --

REMARKS

Claim 1-35 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, second claim 33 is cancelled and claim 35 is added. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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